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**DEPARTMENT SEES INCREASE IN ONLINE RENEWALS**  
***Renewal figures up 81% from 2005.***

**Madison, WI** - Secretary Jackson announced today that on-line license renewals have increased. Professionals from 99 credential types are able to renew their professional licenses electronically via the Internet. Fourth quarter 2006 renewal figures indicate a 95% participation rate, up 81% from the previous year.

"Our Department is continually working to ensure exceptional service to the professionals we license. By offering state-of-the-art access via the Internet we can provide almost instant renewal status," said Secretary Jackson. "Online renewal options directly support our mission to provide a personalized, efficient, and responsive experience for our license holders."

The online renewal process is another example of the State's goal to bring the benefits of e-government to Wisconsin's professional workforce. In addition to convenience for the applicant, online license renewals decrease processing time and help to ensure accuracy. Online renewals are accomplished in a secure, encrypted environment and each application is verified complete as it is submitted.

"Wisconsin is on the move," Governor Doyle said. "We need to make sure that in this fast paced world, our state's professionals have the tools they need to renew their licenses instantly. E-government is a great way to achieve that goal and streamline the licensing process."

***About The Department of Regulation and Licensing:***

The Department of Regulation and Licensing and related professional boards licenses and regulates 128 different types of credentials in 57 professional fields. The Department issues over 49,500 new credentials and renews more than 304,000 credential holders each biennium. The agency also provides centralized administrative services to 43 boards, councils, and advisory committees. The Department has full responsibility for and directly regulates 11 professions. The Department of Regulation and Licensing protects the citizens of Wisconsin by ensuring the safe and competent practice of licensed professionals through regulation, education, experience, examination, practice standards, and compliance.

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